



WHY FARE? THE PROBLEM

- **Noncompliance.** Although the Arizona courts have made significant strides in the last decade in enforcement of court orders, a significant number of individuals continue to ignore sanctions ordered by judges pursuant to state laws.
- **Too Much Work, Too Few Workers.** Caseload growth in the Arizona courts and the increasing number of pro per litigants has placed additional demands on court staff. At the same time, budget constraints for all jurisdictions have limited staff growth while the demands for timely and accurate case processing and customer service continue to increase.
- **Lack of Convenient Options for Citizens.** Currently, most courts can only offer citizens traditional payment methods. Expanded options for citizens to comply with a citation through Web-based and Interactive Voice Response (IVR) credit card payments are not generally available.
- **Lack of Consistency.** Arizona has 163 limited jurisdiction courts; 84 municipal courts and 79 justice of the peace courts and one Superior Court, with a location in each county. The courts use a variety of automated case management systems, and various programs, to enforce compliance with fines and penalties. There are significant differences in the tools and resources available to the local courts to enforce compliance; with resulting differences in collection rates.
- **Budget Deficits.** Arizona is currently suffering a severe budget deficit, with significant cuts in court funding at both the state and local levels. Jurisdictions across the state have differing abilities to meet the funding needs of local courts, and the needs of citizens. Revenue generation is a priority that reaches beyond the Arizona judiciary. Significant dollars collected by the courts are forwarded to local jurisdictions and the state general fund to benefit all Arizona citizens.